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**AN ANALYSIS OF PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES FOUND IN  
*FOLKATIVE*  
INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT**

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**Abstract**

This article aims to analyze the functions of prepositional phrases found in Folkative's Instagram account. This research was qualitative research. The data were taken from Folkative's Instagram account by taking screenshots of the posts on July 2022. The data were analyzed based on the functions of prepositional phrases proposed by Quirk, et al theory (1985). The writer found three main functions of prepositional phrases in Folkative's Instagram Account. However, for the adverbial function, there are only adjunct and conjunct that are found. Moreover, the prepositional phrases which functions as post modifier of a noun are highly used in Folkative's Instagram account.

Keywords: Keywords: Phrases, Preposition, Prepositional Phrases

## I. INTRODUCTION

A prepositional phrase is a collection of words that includes a preposition, its object, and any words that modify the object. According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2014, p.424), “A prepositional phrase consists of a preposition plus a nominal group, for example, *on the burning deck*”. Based on the example stated in the quotation, *on* is the preposition, meanwhile *the burning deck* is the nominal group.

These prepositional phrases are found in written and spoken language and formal and informal communication. One of informal use of prepositional phrases is found in Folkative instagram account, which provides the latest daily news. This account uses a number of prepositional phrases in some news that it shares to public.

The fact that Folkative uses a number of prepositional phrases that becomes the topic of this research, the writer took this account to analyze. In this research, the writer focused on analyzing the functions of prepositional phrases by Quirk et al (1985, p.657) used in Folkative Instagram account.

## II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

According to Foley & Hall (2003, p.285), "A prepositional phrase consists of a preposition and the word(s) that follow it." In other words, a prepositional phrase is a collection of words that includes a preposition, a noun or pronoun object of the preposition, and any object modifiers. A preposition is placed in front of its object.

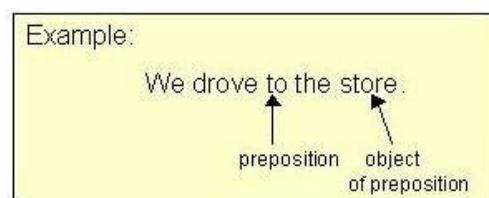


Figure 2.1  
Example of Prepositional Phrase

From the example above, *to the store* is a prepositional phrase. *Store* is the object of the preposition *to*, not the direct object of the verb *drove*. In addition, prepositional phrase has structures. The structures are preposition and complement. According to Greenbaum & Nelson (2002; p.70), a prepositional phrase can be formed by two which are preposition and its complement.

Moreover, prepositional phrases can have some functions. According to Quirk et al (1985, p.657), prepositional phrases have three main syntactic functions namely a postmodifier of a noun phrase, adverbial, and complementation. First, in a post modifier of a noun phrase, the preposition becomes the postmodifying phrase and the noun phrase becomes the element that is modified. For example, *the people on the bus were singing*. The prepositional phrase on the bus functions as post modifier because it comes after the noun phrase that it modifies.

Second, adverbial function of prepositional phrase can be divided into four types namely adjunct, subjunct, disjunct and conjunct. Adjunct can be known by seeing the characteristics. First, it cannot appear initially in a negative declarative clause. Second, it can be the focus of question or of clause negation. The function of an adjunct is to relate the sentence as a whole (Quirk, 1985, p.657). For example, *the people were singing on the bus*. Moreover, a subjunct can be formed from adjectives, nouns, adverbs, and a corresponding prepositional phrase from the point of view. For instance, *from my personal point of view. I find this is a good*

*solution of the problem*. In addition, A disjunct is not affected by clausal processes. It can appear initially in a negative declarative clause and cannot be the focus of a question or of a clause negation. For example, *she did, in all fairness, try to call the police*. Finally, a conjunct is used to introduce a new sentence in a series and linking it logically with what has been said before. For example, *on the other hand, he made no attempt to help the victim or apprehend the attacker*.

Third, the function of prepositional phrases as complementation can be divided into complementation of a verb, and an adjective.

### III. RESEARCH METHOD

This research is a qualitative research. Qualitative research entails gathering and analyzing non-numerical data in order to better understand concepts, opinions, or experiences. Creswell (2009, p.76) says that qualitative approach is for exploring and understanding, the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem.

The data used in this research were taken from an Instagram account named Folkative. The Folkative's Instagram account is an online media platform that focuses on news, art,

culture, and Indonesian products. Folkative is a collective company that focuses on young people.

#### IV. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The finding and discussion of the data focus on the functions of prepositional phrases found in Folkative's Instagram account. Folkative usually posts around five to seven posts in a day. Therefore, in this analysis the writer only took the data that were posted on July 2022. The writer found 44 data consist of 171 prepositional phrases. Those prepositional phrases have been analyzed based on the functions. The functions are as post modifiers of noun phrase, adverbial, and complementation (Quirk et al, 1985).

The first function is postmodifier of noun phrase. Prepositional phrase is by far the commonest type of post modification in English. The postmodifying phrase normally follows the elements it postmodifies directly. In this case, the preposition becomes the postmodifying phrase and the noun phrase becomes the element that is modified. A noun phrase, in addition, is a word or group of words that functions in a sentence as subject, object, or prepositional object. The

prepositional phrases exist to give information of the noun in the sentence. The writer found eighty three prepositional phrases functioning as a post-modifier of noun phrases in Folkative's Instagram account. There are only five prepositional phrases which are analyzed. The analysis is as following:

1[a]. *Russian President Vladimir Putin has just welcomed the arrival of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Joko Widodo (Jokowi), at the Kremlin Palace, Moscow.*

In the sentence above, *of the President* is the prepositional phrase because it consists of preposition *of* and complement *the President*. It modifies the noun phrase, *the arrival*. The prepositional phrase occurs right after the noun phrase *the arrival*. The prepositional phrase in this sentence exists to give information of whose arrival that is being welcomed by Russian President Vladimir Putin. In other words, it can be seen that the prepositional phrase comes after the noun phrase functioning as the post modifier of the noun phrase.

The second function of prepositional phrases is as adverbial. There are four types of adverbial of the

prepositional phrases. They are adjunct, subjunct, disjunct, conjunct. Furthermore, the writer found fifty one prepositional phrases that have adverbial function. There are only prepositional phrases functioning as adjunct and conjunct that the writer found.

Adjunct can be known by seeing the characteristics. First, it cannot appear initially in a negative declarative clause. Second, it can be the focus of question or of clause negation. The function of an adjunct is to relate the sentence as a whole. Moreover, adjunct can normally be evoked as the response to a where, when, how long, how often, and for how long questions. The writer found forty six prepositional phrases are functioning as adjunct in Folkative's Instagram account. There are only five prepositional phrases which are analyzed. The analysis is as following:

1[d] *Russian President Vladimir Putin has just welcomed the arrival of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Joko Widodo (Jokowi), at the Kremlin Palace, Moscow.*

In the sentence above, *at the Kremlin Palace* is the prepositional phrase, because it consists of preposition *at* and complement *the*

*Kremlin Palace*. It has adverbial function. The function is classified as adjunct. The prepositional phrase *at the Kremlin Palace* exists as the response a where question. It gives information about where the Russian President Vladimir Putin has just welcomed the arrival of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Joko Widodo.

Conjunct is similar with a subjunct and a disjunct, a conjunct is also grammatically different from an adjunct in terms of feature. The function is to conjoin independent units rather than to contribute information to a single integrated unit. A conjunct is used to introduce a new sentence in a series and linking it logically with what has been said before. The writer found five prepositional phrases are functioning as conjunct in Folkative's Instagram account. There is only one prepositional phrase which is analyzed. The analysis is as following:

21 [d] *According to reports, the owner's pet 'Olaf' kept barking in front of the car, and after firefighters came, Olaf still helped by sniffing around the area where the cat got stuck.*

In the sentence above, *after firefighters came* is the prepositional phrase because it consists of preposition

*after* and complement *firefighters came*. It has adverbial function. The function is classified as conjunct. The prepositional phrase *after firefighters came* exists to introduce the sentence *Olaf still helped by sniffing around the area where the cat got stuck* and links it with the previous sentence *According to reports, the owner's pet 'Olaf' kept barking in front of the car*.

The third function is complementation. As complementation of a verb or an adjective, the preposition is more closely related to the preceding word, which determines its choice, than to the prepositional complement. As stated above, the function of prepositional phrases as complementation can be divided into two types which are complementation of a verb and complementation of an adjective.

First type is the complementation of a verb. The elements of a clause structure for the complementation of the verb are important in the use of particular verb. Therefore, the sentence is incomplete if one of the elements is omitted. The writer found seventeen prepositional phrases are functioning as complement of a verb. However, there are only four data which are analyzed. The analysis is as following:

16[e] *This idea came to life after Ani Purwanti witnessed several tawuran in her area of living in Tanah Abang.*

In the sentence above, *to life* is the prepositional phrase, because it consists of preposition *to* and complement *life*. This prepositional phrase has a role as complement. The function is as complement of a verb. It comes after the verb *came*.

The second type is complementation of an adjective. Adjective often forms a lexical unit with a following preposition. The lexical bond is stronger with adjectives for which, in a given sense, the complementation is obligatory; for examples: *sorry for, close to, fond of*, etc. The writer found seventeen prepositional phrases functioning as complement of an adjective. However, there are only four data which are analyzed. The analysis is as following:

7[c] *This feature will soon be available on Whatsapp Beta for iOS, Android, and desktop, though they haven't set a release day yet as it is still on the development stage.*

In the sentence above, *on Whatsapp Beta* is the prepositional phrase that has a role as complement. This prepositional phrase functions as

complement of an adjective. It comes after the adjective *available*.

## V. CONCLUSION

From finding of the research and discussion, the writer found that the prepositional phrases taken from July's posts of Folkative's Instagram account has the three main functions which are postmodifier of a noun, adverbial, and complementation. Moreover, the writer found that the prepositional phrases which function as post modifier of a noun are highly used in Folkative's Instagram account's posts.

There were 83 data found using prepositional phrases to be a postmodifier of noun phrase.

Meanwhile, for the adverbial function, the writer only found prepositional phrases that have function as an adjunct and conjunct. There was no prepositional phrase that has functions as subjunct and disjunct in Folkative's Instagram account. In addition, it was found that prepositional phrases are mostly used as postmodifier of noun phrase.

It can be concluded that prepositional phrases found in Folkative instagram account on July 2022 have have three main syntactic functions namely a postmodifier of a

noun phrase, adverbial, and complementation proposed by Quirk et al.

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